

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

In paragraph 7 of the Official Action mailed February 13, 2004, the Examiner has made some informality objections to claims 1 through 6. All of the suggestions made by the Examiner have been incorporated into the claims as amended herein. The suggestion about "said plug walls" has also been incorporated into claim 14, and the suggestion about "predetermined" has also been incorporated into claim 18.

The Examiner has made some objections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, in regard to claims 1 through 6, 14, 15, 17 and 18. With regard to claim 1 and the reference to "spaced-apart wall portions", this phrase has now been deleted altogether from claim 1, so the Examiner's objections in respect of this term are no longer applicable.

In regard to the limitations "said bypass valve inlet and outlet openings" and "said inlet and outlet openings" in claims 1 and 14, the words --bypass valve-- have now been added before "inlet and outlet openings" to make it clear which inlet and outlet openings are being referred to in each instance.

As for the objection to claim 14 and the limitation "selected spaced-apart wall portions" (lines 7-8), Applicant has adopted the Examiner's suggestion to replace "selected spaced-apart wall portions" with "selected ones of said spaced-apart wall portions", so this objection has been met.

As for the objection to claim 15 and the meaning of "defining", this claim has been amended to delete this limitation and make it clear that it is the adjacent manifolds that the bypass valve is mounted between. It is believed that claim 15 and all of the other claims in the application under examination now satisfy the Examiner's objections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

The Examiner has objected to claims 1 through 6, 14, 17 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as

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being anticipated by Seiler *et al.* Applicant has amended claims 1 and 14 to add the limitation "the actuator portion having no inlet and outlet openings for flow through the actuator portion". It is submitted that there is no disclosure or suggestion of this in Seiler *et al.*, so this §102 (e) objection is no longer applicable. Support in the disclosure for these amendments may be found in the drawings and in paragraph [0030] where it is stated that inlet and outlet openings in all embodiments are formed in the plug portion 26.

The amendments to paragraphs [0005] and [0006] of the disclosure are to make the Summary of the Invention correspond with the amended independent claims.

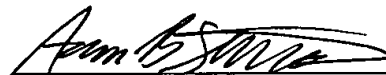
Paragraph [0024] of the disclosure has been amended to correct a typographical error in line 4, where "actually" should be --axially--.

Paragraph [0026] of the disclosure has been amended in the third line and in the last line to change "responsible" to --responsive--, and "energization" to --de-energization--, again to correct typographical errors. No new matter has been added by these disclosure amendments.

In view of the above, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance, which is courteously requested.

Respectfully Submitted,
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